

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 12 - 14. These three sheets, which includes Figures 12 - 14), replaces the original three sheets including Figures 12 - 14).

In Figure 12, the legend Prior Art has been added.

In Figure 13, the legend Prior Art has been added.

In Figure 14, the legend Prior Art has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated April 10, 2006. Claims 1 - 25 are pending in the application. Claims 10 - 12 and 14 - 25 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1 - 9 and 13 have been examined and have been rejected. Reexamination is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

These remarks follow the order of the outstanding Office Action.

Priority

Applicant appreciates the acknowledgement of priority at page 1.

Drawings

Figures 12 - 14 have been amended to state that they depict prior art.

Claims 1 and 3

Claim 1 has been amended to place "a" before cutter.
Claim 3 has been amended to delete the term "both".

Claims 2, 4, 6, 9 and 13

Claims 2, 4, 6, 9 and 13 have been rejected under 35 USC § 112 second paragraph.

In claim 2, the Examiner has objected to the term "opposite".

Claim 4 has been cancelled. However, the amendments in claim 1 now define the cutting edge. As stated in claim 1, Applicant refers only to the edge and does not use the term "face".

In claim 6, the Examiner has objected to the claim as being contradictory to the specification and drawings. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 is fully supported by Figures 2, 3 and 4 that show that the height of the cutter (18c) is roughly the same as the height of the bristle (12). Applicant has changed the claim by changing the term "the" to "a" in order to provide proper antecedent basis.

In claim 9, Applicant has amended the claim to define how the U-shaped cross section is found. Namely, it is in a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bristles in areas where cutting edge is exposed. This can clearly be seen in reference to Figures 2 and 4. The basis for the longitudinal axis is now set forth in claim 1 as amended.

In claim 13 Applicant has deleted the term "both". The Examiner has asked, "How is it that the cutters are mounted on both bristles." Applicant notes that this is shown in Figure 1. Still further, in amended claim 13 there is no "the" before the

phrase "cutters are mounted" in order to initially recite "cutters".

Amendments to the Claims

In claim 1, the amendments are based upon the structure shown in the original drawings and the original claim 4. An amendment in the specification to include the word longitudinal has been made in order to bring the drawings into alignment with the specification.

In claim 2, the amendments are based upon Figure 2, Figure 4, the specification, page 20, lines 18 - 21, page 22, line 17 and page 20, lines 5 - 7.

The amendments in claim 3 are based upon Figure 1 and the specification, page 20, lines 8 - 12.

The amendments in the claim 7 are based upon Figures 2 and 4.

The amendments in claim 9 are based upon the original drawings and original claim 4. The amendments in claim 9 have been made primarily to provide the necessary antecedent basis, which is to be found in amended claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1 - 8 and 13 were rejected as being anticipated by the prior art. The claims as now amended clearly define over the prior art because the longitudinal axis of the bristles are now

defined and because the cutter is required to have a longitudinal axis where the cutting edge is set parallel and facing the longitudinal direction of the bristles. Here, the Examiner should note that the term "facing in" refers to the direction of the blade and not the fact that the blade has a face. In this sense, the word "facing" in claim 1 is used as a direction term and not as a structural term to describe an edge.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(b)

The claims as now presented clearly define over Laughlin '319. In Laughlin like Applicant's admitted prior art, the blades (24) (see edges of (24) at the tip of (22)) are not parallel to the longitudinal direction of the tines (40). Instead, Laughlin, like Applicant's admitted prior art, shows a cutting edge that is perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the tine (40), not parallel to it as claimed.

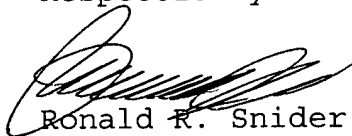
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The prior art relied upon in the 35 USC § 103 rejection is all directed to the razor blade art and more particularly to guards for razor blades. It is respectfully submitted that Applicant's invention is in the art of hair brushes containing cutters, and is not a razor blade. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that the art relied upon is clearly from a non-analogous art that should not be relied upon because one

working in the hair brush art is not charged with knowledge of the razor blade arts.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early action in accordance thereof is requested. In the event there is any reason why the application cannot be allowed in this current condition, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the number listed below to resolve any problems by Interview or Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



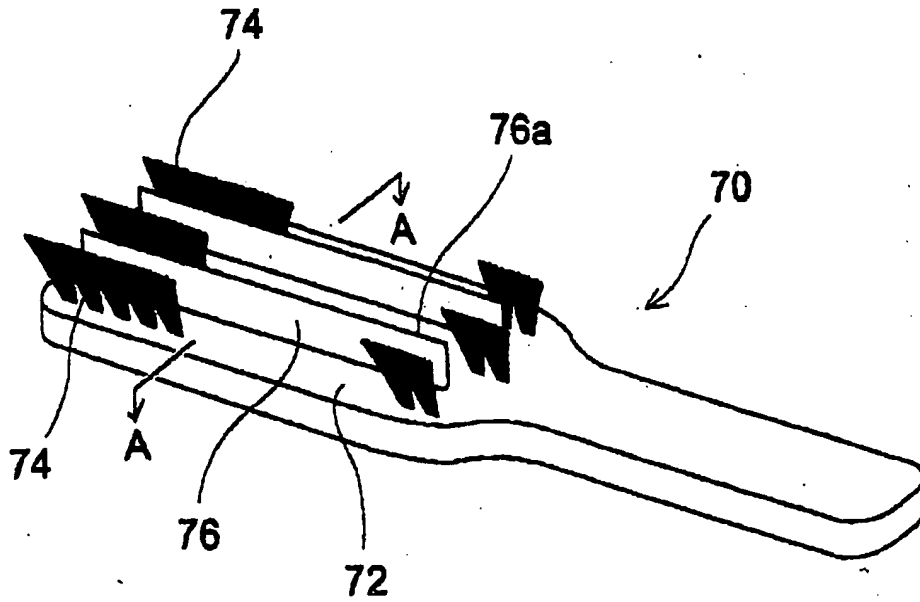
Ronald R. Snider
Reg. No. 24,962

Date: September 8, 2006

Snider & Associates
Ronald R. Snider
P.O. Box 27613
Washington, D.C. 20038-7613
Telephone: (202) 347-2600

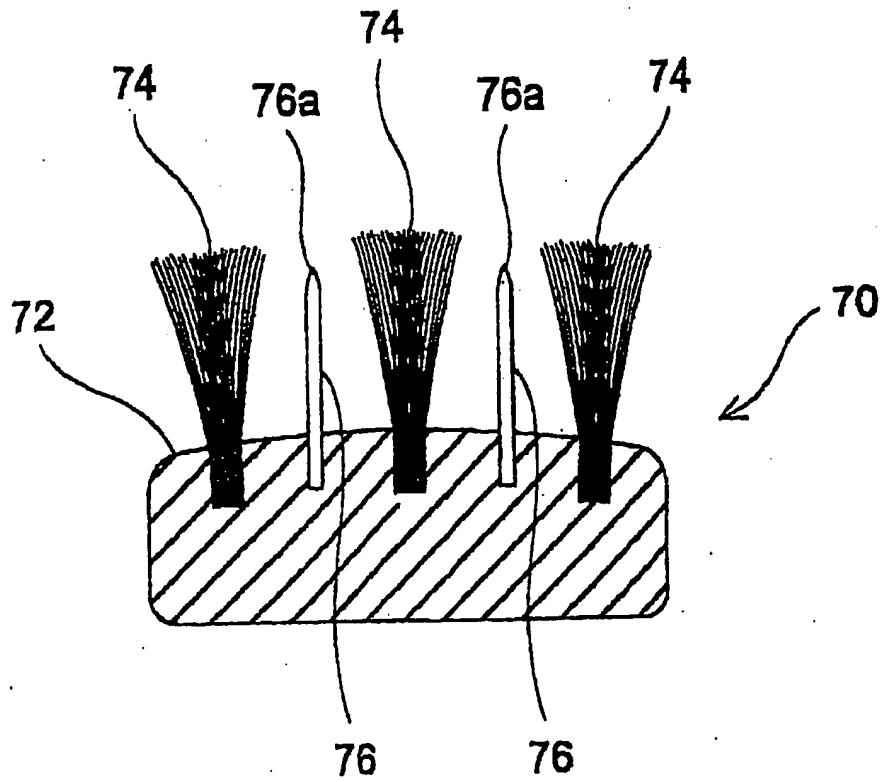
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FIG. 12



PRIOR ART

FIG. 13



PRIOR ART

FIG. 14

